

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

AMENDMENT "B" ACCOMPANYING FILING OF RCE

APPLICANTS:

Rahn et al

CONFIRMATION NO.: 6581

SERIAL NO.:

09/605,213

GROUP ART UNIT: 3737

FILED:

June 28, 2000

EXAMINER: E. Mantis Mercader

SYSTEM

AND

TITLE:

"MEDICAL WORKSTATION, IMAGING

METHOD FOR MIXING TWO IMAGES"

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,

Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated October 23, 2002, Applicants herewith amend the above-referenced application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please add the following additional claims:

15. A system comprising:

an image signal acquisition unit for acquiring 2D image signals of an examination subject in real time, and an imaging unit for producing a 2D image of said examination subject in an image plane from said 2D image signals;

an instrument having a tip adapted for interaction with said examination subject;

a navigation system including a position acquisition unit for determining a position of said image signal acquisition unit and for determining a position of said tip relative to said position acquisition unit; and

a mixing unit connected to said imaging unit for mixing a representation of said tip into said 2D image and, if said tip is not located in said image plane, for mixing a designation of a distance of said tip from said image plane into said 2D image said designation being alterable and indicating a magnitude of said distance.

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